

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 12130 182114Z

67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08

AGR-20 /194 W

----- 062010

R 181706Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4018

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION ONE OF TWO LONDON 12130

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EEC, UK

SUBJECT: GISCARD'S SEPTEMBER 14 EC SUMMIT DINNER

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ECONCOM MIN CALLED ON PATRICK NAIRNE,
SECOND PERMANENT SECRETARY, CABINET OFFICE, SEPTEMBER 17
TO DISCUSS GISCARD'S INFORMAL SUMMIT DINNER. NAIRNE,
WHO ACCOMPANIED PRIME MINISTER TO PARIS, SAID PRINCIPAL
SUBJECTS DISCUSSED WERE CURRENT STATE OF EUROPEAN ECONOMY,
COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY, ORGANIZATION OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
AND WHEN AND UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES THEY SHOULD MEET AGAIN.
END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 12130 182114Z

2. PATRICK NAIRNE, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AFFAIRS IN THE CABINET OFFICE, ACCOMPANIED PRIME MINISTER WILSON TO PARIS AND DESCRIBED HIS ROLE AS "A WAITER OUTSIDE RATHER THAN A WAITER AT THE EC SUMMIT DINNER."

3. HE CHARACTERIZED GENERAL ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING AS CORDIAL, BUT SAID PROCEEDINGS MUST HAVE BEEN FAIRLY FORMAL IN THAT HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS OF THE NINE FIRST WERE CALLED ON IN TURN TO OUTLINE THEIR VIEWS, WHICH SOME DID AT LENGTH. MEETING DID NOT BREAK UP UNTIL QUITE LATE (WILSON DID NOT RETURN TO EMBASSY UNTIL AFTER MIDNIGHT). NAIRNE SAID HE THOUGHT THAT IN SPITE OF EFFORT TO CREATE INFORMAL ATMOSPHERE IT MUST, IN FACT, HAVE BEEN RATHER STIFTED IF EACH OF NINE WERE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK FOR ROUGHLY HALF AN HOUR. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, OPPORTUNITIES FOR GENUINE CONVERSATION OR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS MUST HAVE BEEN LIMITED.

4. NAIRNE SAID PARTICIPANTS COVERED THREE PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS. FIRST WAS THE STATE OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIES IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT, WHICH WAS BASICALLY A CONTINUATION WITH DIFFERENT PARTICIPANTS OF THE CONVERSATIONS WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE AT FINANCE MINISTER'S MEETING AT THE CHATEAU DES CHAMPS WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 7 AND 8. NAIRNE DREW PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO DIFFERENCES IN EMPHASIS WHICH HE DETECTED IN APPROACHES OF GERMANY AND US AT THE EARLIER MEETING AND FRANCE AND THE UK. HE DID NOT ELABORATE BUT SAID THAT SCHMIDT AT GISCARD'S DINNER HAD EXPRESSED RELUCTANCE TO SEE SIGNIFICANT LOOSENING OF CONTROLS ON INFLATION. HE DID NOT, HOWEVER, DESCRIBE POSITION OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND LEFT IMPRESSION THAT SCHMIDT HAD DONE MUCH OF THE TALKING ON THIS POINT.

5. SECOND PRINCIPAL POINT DISCUSSED WAS THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY AND SUGGESTION BY SCHMIDT, AND PERHAPS OTHERS, THAT CAP BE REVIEWED IN DETAIL. HE SAID IN RETROSPECT HE WAS SURPRISED BY WILLINGNESS OF SOME OTHER EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAVE TRADITIONALLY BEEN STRONGLY ATTACHED TO, AND DERIVED SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS FROM, THE CAP TO UNDERTAKE THIS REVIEW AND MENTIONED IRELAND AND FRANCE IN THIS CONNECTION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LONDON 12130 182114Z

6. THIRD POINT WHICH NAIRNE SAID HAD ENGAGED THE ATTENTION OF THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS WAS WAYS IN WHICH MACHINERY OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES MIGHT BE IMPROVED AND STREAMLINED. SOME CONSIDERATION APPARENTLY WAS GIVEN TO EFFECTS OF THE PRACTICE OF UNANIMITY IN COUNCIL DECISIONS AND THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVES SUCH AS ALLOWING GOVERNMENTS TO ABSTAIN WHILE STATING THEIR POSITION FOR THE RECORD. HE NOTED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT ORTOLI, ALTHOUGH PRESENT,

DID NOT SPEAK, ALTHOUGH IT MUST HAVE CAUSED HIM SOME DISCOMFORT TO HEAR COMMISSION CRITICIZED IN DETAIL.

7. FINALLY, NAIRNE SAID HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS HAD GIVEN SOME CONSIDERATION TO WHEN AND UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES THEY MIGHT MEET AGAIN AND AGREED THAT IT IS DESIRABLE TO HAVE A FORMAL SUMMIT MEETING, PERHAPS LASTING NOT MORE THAN A DAY, BEFORE CHRISTMAS RECESS. HE MENTIONED SEVERAL TIMES "FIASCO" OF COPENHAGEN SUMMIT AND EMPHASIZED GENERAL VIEW THAT THE MEETING MUST BE BRIEF, WELL PREPARED AND WELL ORGANIZED.

8. WE ASKED ABOUT GENERAL ATMOSPHERE WHICH PRIME MINISTER WILSON HAD ENCOUNTERED AS REPRESENTATIVE OF MINORITY GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS ALREADY BEGUN RENEGOTIATION OF THE TERMS OF ITS MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITIES. NAIRNE SAID IN EFFECT THAT IN PREPARATION FOR GISCARD DINNER IT HAD BEEN TACITLY AGREED THAT THIS SUBJECT WOULD NOT BE RAISED IN DETAIL BECAUSE IT WAS RECOGNIZED THAT THE LABOR GOVERNMENT IS WARMING UP FOR AN ELECTION IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT, ALTHOUGH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS BEGUN RENEGOTIATION ON A NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIAL AND IMPORTANT POINTS, PARTICULARLY THE BUDGET AND THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY, FOREIGN SECRETARY AND OTHERS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE NORMAL BUSINESS OF THE COMMUNITIES MUST CONTINUE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SOCIAL RECEPTIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974LONDON12130
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740262-0483
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740936/aaaabdyo.tel
Line Count: 139
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 04 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <03 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GISCARD'S SEPTEMBER 14 EC SUMMIT DINNER
TAGS: ECON, UK, EEC, (GISCARD D'ESTAING, VALERY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005